

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Construction of a New Airfield near Bechyne	DATE DISTR.	31 July 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. A new military airfield is being constructed on a site approximately four kilometers southeast of Bechyne (O 50/Q 89), in the western part of a forest called the Sudomericky Revir.
2. The electric railway between Bechyne and Tabor has been closed to civilian traffic and is being used exclusively for hauling building material, including bricks, cement, stones, iron and steel, to the site and lumber in the opposite direction. Civilian traffic has been switched to busses which run between the two towns.
3. roads near the airfield will also be closed to civilian traffic and busses will have to make a wide detour. The workers complain about this because it will mean inconvenience and waste of time for them.
4. The number of workers employed on the project is estimated at from 350 to 500, including a military unit of 150 to 200 men and 200 to 300 civilian workers recruited locally.
5. Some 25 or 30 trucks have been counted on the project. These include five- and three-ton trucks and five water trucks which belong to the communal enterprises of the city of Prague. Water is transported to the site from Bechyne. In addition, one steam-roller, two bulldozers and three scrapers have been seen on the site.
6. The military unit is employed at controlling traffic and guarding the area; it is also building a railroad track which is nearly completed and already in use.
7. The civilian workers are employed on the following tasks:
 - a. Constructing a road to the airfield site from the main road between Bechyne and the Sudomericky Revir; they also are felling trees for a railroad track.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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- b. Opening a new sand pit.
 - c. Felling trees and levelling the ground on the site of the future airfield.
 - d. Building wooden huts and transporting various materials and lumber to and from the site.
8. Electric power for the project is drawn from an overhead cable along the electric railway track.
9. The military unit is billeted in wooden huts on the airfield site. Some of the civilian workers also live in these huts, but the majority of them commute by bus.
10. No construction of buildings other than the temporary ones indicated above has been commenced. [] unable to state the proposed size or exact location of the airfield and [] not know the direction and number of proposed runways.

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